

## Author's Purpose

Rather than instilling a fear of guns and rifles in their children, I believe parents should educate them. Shooting for sport is a great after-school activity to get kids involved in.

American sport shooter Jamie Beyerle has been shooting since she was eight years old. That's when her parents got her involved in a BB gun program. Since then, she has gone on to win numerous titles and become a member of the University of Alaska at Fairbanks' renowned shooting team. Beyerle was even selected to be a member of the US 2008 Olympic team.

She is a prime example of why getting adolescents involved in shooting for sport is a great idea. Doing so instills pride and self-confidence, as well as an appreciation for healthy competition, in students. Beyerle not only used her skills to represent her country internationally, but also to help other young people who are interested in the sport by volunteering with a local BB gun program.

**1.** What was the author's purpose for writing this passage?

Write your response here:

---

**2.** Which audience would most likely find this passage interesting?

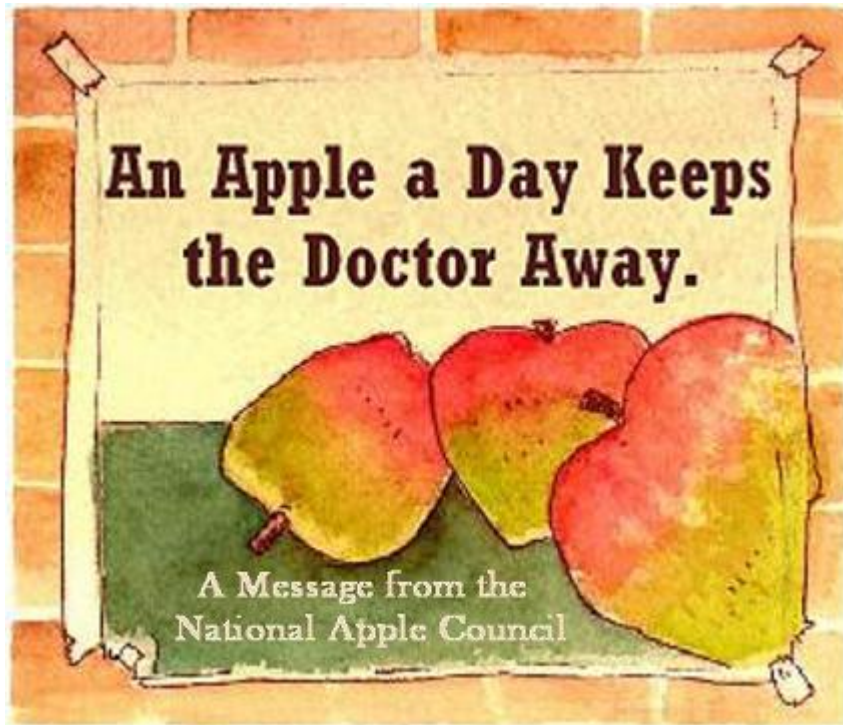
Write your response here:

---

**3.** The author expects the reader to believe that

Write your response here:

4.



The publishers of this advertisement want readers to believe that apples can

Write your response here:

---

The Partnership for Advanced Technology in Housing (PATH) is an initiative focused on both the private and public sectors of the economy. The United States Department of Housing and Urban

Development (HUD) manages the program and coordinates the project's efforts through the Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R). PD&R maintains PATH's budgetary needs, overall strategy, and daily activities. PATH's aims are, according to its Web site, to increase "the development, dissemination, and use of new housing technologies." PATH works with homebuilders, building code officials, manufacturers, and other construction professionals to develop research and enact building upgrades. Homebuilders and commercial property owners are encouraged to contact the Affordable Housing Research and Technology Division of PATH for additional information.

**5.** Which of the following **best** describes the author's purpose in writing this passage?

Write your response here:

---

Every year, our students slip further and further behind. Teachers must spend one to two, sometimes three, months helping students get caught up to the academic level they exhibited before the summer vacation. The loss of academic progress is known as summer reading loss.

Summer learning loss is a phenomenon that occurs when students lose academic skills and knowledge they have acquired over the course of the prior school year. During the months of summer vacation, when students are out of school, their daily activity does not reinforce the academics they have participated in for the previous year. Research has shown that, on average, students lose one month of study, but this average varies depending on the subject matter. Students lose almost three months of study for math while losses for reading are less. Learning loss is more prevalent in lower income students so that the achievement gap increases further between these students and middle to high-income students.

Summer months were granted as vacation, originally, to allow students to focus on agricultural harvests. The families would need all able-bodied hands to bring in the crop. As society became more industrialized and less agricultural, the need for students to assist with the harvest became less significant. With the necessity of summer vacation gone, the months instead are spent in idleness. Allowing students to attend students year round will increase academic performance because it will eliminate the phenomenon of summer learning loss.

**6.** Which choice **best** describes the author's purpose in writing this passage?

Write your response here:

---

Toy manufacturers have managed to take the bite out of even the most ferocious animals. Tigers, lions, bears—you name it, and it comes in cuddly, “just my size” stuffed animal proportions. So is it any surprise that people are becoming more and more fascinated with owning “exotic” pets from the wild?

Many people seem to think that any animal can be domesticated and kept as a household pet. Although they may behave themselves initially, wild animals cannot betray their instincts forever. Just the other day a 200-pound chimpanzee attacked a woman. Although the chimp had lived with its human owner for over a decade and dressed, fed, and washed himself, in addition to being in many commercials, he was still a primate. Doctors have come forward to say that no matter how long these creatures live in human company, it’s important to remember that they are still wild animals and prone to returning to their animal nature.

Of course, when animals attack the first instinct is for authorities to subdue them. Usually the poor creatures wind up in the great zoo in the sky. I don’t think this is right. These animals should not be punished for behaving in a way that comes naturally to them. I believe that human beings need to leave wild animals in their natural habitat rather than trying, and ultimately failing, to domesticate them. That way, nobody gets mauled, and no one gets put into an eternal slumber. There are many dogs and cats at local animal shelters that can use a home just as there are many people who are seeking companionship from pets.

**7.** Who is the most likely intended audience for this passage?

Write your response here:

---

**8.** Which statement from the passage best shows the author's purpose for writing?

Write your response here:

---

9. Which best explains the author's purpose for writing this passage?

Write your response here:

---

## Lost in Corn Country

by Heather Klassen

And I'm sure I've been lost in this corn maze for fifty hours. I didn't even want to go on this field trip in the first place. Give me an air-conditioned classroom in the city, I said. Let me eat corn fresh from a freezer.

But no, some farmer had to grow a cornfield in the shape of Washington State. He even carved highways through the cornstalks.

And my teacher, Ms. Barlay, had to decide that the maze would be a great field trip. To get a better sense of our state, she said. And for fun, she added.

Here comes a preschool group, each kid gripping a knot on a rope, a teacher at each end. If only our class had a knotted rope, I wouldn't be in this predicament.

"Why is he sitting there?" a preschooler pipes up.

"Maybe he's lost," a teacher ventures. "Can we help you find your way?"

"I'm just resting," I reply. I don't exactly want to be seen following a bunch of three-year-olds out of this maze at the end of a knotted rope.

I look around and spot the sign that tells me I've at least made it halfway.

I would kiss that sign except that two grandmotherly-looking women step into the clearing. They look at me. "Are you lost?" one asks.

I'm starting to wonder if I have "lost" printed on my forehead. Right now, I wouldn't even care. I just want to escape from this maze and never see an ear of corn again.

"Sort of," I admit.

"Lucille and I know the way," the woman says. "Shall we take you?"

"No! No, thanks, I mean." Being led out of the maze by Lucille and her friend would be almost as bad as showing up at the end of a pre-school rope. "I think I can find it if you'll point me in the right direction."

"Take two rights," the woman explains, "then veer southwest."

Now I have to veer southwest, I remember. But how in the world do you veer? What's a "veer" anyway?

Oh, no, there are those preschoolers again!

The preschoolers shuffle by. As the end teacher passes, I slip out and follow, hoping they're heading for the exit.



When we reach the exit, I'll slip away from this group and slyly join my class . . . assuming they haven't already left.

When we reach the end, I wish that they had gone. As the preschoolers and I exit, I realize that the woman aiming a camera at me is Ms. Barlay . . . and that she's taking a picture of me being led out of the maze by a group of three-year-olds.

I bump into Lucille and her friend as I back away.

"Here's the nice lost boy," Lucille says.

My face burns as my classmates look up at the word "lost." But hey, at least I'm out. That's all that matters.

*Copyright (c) 2001 by Highlights for Children, Inc., Columbus, Ohio.*

**10.** What is the **best** way to describe the author's purpose in writing this piece?

Write your response here:

---

**11.** Mya has decided to has to write a five minute speech for her Oral Communication class. Her teacher said the speech has to be informative and hold the interest of her ninth grade classmates.

Which of these topics fits Mya's purpose and audience?

Write your response here:

---

The director William Friedkin said that the Academy Awards is "the greatest promotion scheme that any industry ever devised for itself," and he is correct. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, an organization of film industry professionals, schedules its awards show every year to occur in the spring. The Academy gives out the awards, called Oscars, for the best performances, scripts, songs, films, and technical advances from the preceding year. The Academy names its own nominees. Its members vote on these nominees. The Academy tabulates these votes and announces the winner. There are many opportunities for fraud or promotion. In fact, the nominees often campaign for an award because the status increases ticket and video sales.

There have been over 80 annual award shows. The Academy has not missed a year since 1929. In 1981, the Academy postponed the show for one day out of respect for then President Ronald Reagan who was recovering after a failed assassination attempt.

Those 80 years have seen many questionable films win awards that did not hold up to the test of time. In fact, many critics claim that certain members of the film community determine the winners well ahead of time. While these critics will never be able to prove their claim, it makes sense because the Academy developed the awards as a publicity campaign.

**12.** Which of the following represents an ethical appeal made by the author?

Write your response here:

---

The Polynesian people are considered to be descendants of the seafaring Austronesian people who themselves originated in the Malaysian region of Southeast Asia. Polynesia is a sub-region of Oceania, located just northeast of Australia and New Zealand. Although Polynesia is composed of over 1,000 islands, the people living on those islands share a similar culture, language, and ethnicity. Over 6,000 years ago, sailors and their families took to the seas in search of more lands. They scattered across the islands of the South Pacific. The process these people used to navigate is yet unknown to anthropologists. Samoa and Tonga are both American protectorates located in Polynesia; Hawaii is also located there.

**13.** Which of these **best** states the author's purpose?

Write your response here:

---

## **A Boy with Dreams**

by A. Gautam

Willy waited every night

to wake up  
and turn into a Batman.  
He had the jaw  
that looked intimidating  
in a cowl,  
and the perfect chin  
with a hint of toughness—  
full lips—an embodiment  
of strength.  
But he had the eyes of a poet—  
searching meaning,  
and looking beyond  
what is seen.  
When he looked at the city  
from his balcony,  
he was learning  
to swim in the world—  
growing up to be a man  
was tougher than it seemed.  
He was a boy with dreams.  
He wanted wings.

**14.** Which statement **best** describes the purpose of this passage?

Write your response here:

---

## Guillotine Studios Beheads Competition

**Los Angeles, CA**—Guillotine Studios reports that the new version of the Razr video game console will feature astounding graphics and “stupefying” 3D play, according to CEO Jack Devon. Devon explained that the studio had exceptional success in forwarding existing 3D technologies, and fans of the old Razr system will enjoy the upgrade.

“We’re all gamers too,” said Devon. “Guillotine isn’t going to release anything that doesn’t completely satisfy. I mean, the last thing I want my fans to think of when they hear the name Jack Devon is, ‘That guy’s a newb. What does he know?’”

Despite Mr. Devon’s witty remarks, financial backers for Guillotine are “completely satisfied.” Guillotine draws capital from several close-knit private investment firms, of which Tidwell Investments, Inc. is the largest. Steven Stanley, a spokesperson for Tidwell, had nothing but praise for Guillotine’s new system.



"I've seen the numbers," said Stanley. "They make sense. Tidwell isn't going to put up money for R&D that doesn't make sense. We're in the business of making cents. You can't do that if you've got a crummy product."

Mr. Stanley went on to announce that investors can expect Tidwell to license the technology so competitors can make use of it as well.

"It appears that with Guillotine's new technology, old-fashioned games have gone the way of the dodo," said Stanley.

While the success of the Razr console remains to be seen, both Guillotine and its investors are steadfastly confident the new upgrade will deliver results. Guillotine's competitors are oddly silent, but Bettye Hawk, lead designer for Parachute, was not too impressed with the Razr release.

Hawk had this to say, "It's all flash. Sure, they have some fancy graphics, but there are no games for the console. There's no library. I think fans are going to get bored with it fast. It will be like playing 3D Pong over and over."

However the competitors paint the picture, fans are eager to get their hands on the consoles. Lines are forming around the block at most stores. Some fans have been waiting in line for days for the release. Critics applauded Guillotine's early release of the system, but the results have not yet come in. Right now, Guillotine and company are crossing their fingers in hope for a successful launch.

- 15.** If the author of the selection wanted to write a personal opinion article to persuade readers that the Razr 3D is a great gaming system, which sentence should he or she include?

Write your response here:

- 
- 16.** What is the **best** way to describe the purpose of this reading selection?

Write your response here:

---

17.

## White Chocolate Chunk Pecan Cookies

### INGREDIENTS

- 1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 1/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup chopped white chocolate
- 1/3 cup chopped pecans

### DIRECTIONS

1. Blend sugar and butter together until smooth and creamy. Add the egg and vanilla; blend well.
2. Sift together the flour, salt, and baking powder; combine these ingredients with the creamed mixture. Add chopped white chocolate and nuts.
3. Spoon dough out onto a cookie sheet. Bake at 375 degrees F (190 degrees C) for about 5 to 10 minutes, or until golden brown on the bottom. Let cool slightly on the cookie sheet before removing, or they'll break.

What was the author's purpose for writing this passage?

Write your response here:

---

Motown Records celebrated its 50th anniversary on January 12, 2009. This history making label was founded by Berry Gordy. It became well-known for its distinctive blend of pop and soul music known as the "Motown Sound." The label, originally called Tamla Records, was started with an \$800 loan from Gordy's family members.

Berry Gordy officially launched Motown Records on April 4, 1960. The label got its name from its hometown Detroit, Michigan. Detroit is called the “Motor City” because the “Big Three,” —Ford, General Motors, and Chrysler—automotive companies are located there.

During its five decade history, the label featured legendary artists like Stevie Wonder, Diana Ross & the Supremes, Marvin Gaye, The Jackson 5, and Boys II Men. Current acts include soul singers India.Aire, Erykah Badu, and actress Lindsay Lohan.

**18.** The author expects the reader to believe that

Write your response here:

---

**19.** The author wrote this passage in order to

Write your response here:

---

**20.** Why did the author include the last paragraph of this passage?

Write your response here:

---

**21.** Which audience would most likely find interest in this passage?

Write your response here:

---

## Man Aims for New Snake-Kissing Record

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia—A kiss is just a kiss, but it may prove to be the kiss of death for a Malaysian snake charmer who will attempt to set a new world record by planting 50 smooches on a venomous snake in 10 minutes.



*AFP/File Photo: A snake charmer swallows the head of a snake in Khadaitala, India.*

Shahimi Abdul Hamid, 33, will perform the dangerous feat on March 11 in a bid to break the current record held by an American man who kissed a poisonous snake 30 times in an unspecified time, the national news agency Bernama said Thursday.

Shahimi has urged Malaysians to support him in his endeavor, saying he "wants to prove that Asians can also be champions in taming poisonous snakes."

While many are urging him on, many animal groups are protesting the event calling it a "stunt." "We believe this is a clear-cut case of an animal being exploited," said Donna Troy of People Against Animal Exploitation. "Shahimi should respect these animals the way they respect people."

Shahimi could not be reached for comments.

Bernama said Shahimi displayed his prowess at a news conference late Wednesday by kissing a three-meter long King Cobra 21 times. His bid in March will be filmed by U.S. television show *Ripley's Believe It Or Not*, Bernama said.

*Used with permission of the Associated Press © 2007. All rights reserved.*

**22.** What is the **best** way to describe the purpose of this reading selection?

Write your response here:

---

**23.** *If* the author of this article wanted to **persuade** people to take action against Shahimi, what would be a good phrase to include?

Write your response here:

---

**24.** Keri's English class has been selected to apply for a college scholarship from a local phone company. The panel of judges consists of English teachers from schools throughout the district. She has to write a five page paper on any topic of her choice.

Which of these is appropriate for her purpose and audience?

Write your response here:

---

The first night she was away at college Lauryn couldn't sleep. She tossed and turned for a few hours. *What if I chose the wrong major? The dean said less than 50 percent of the people who major in Theatre actually survive the program.*

Just when sleep seemed impossible, Lauryn finally drifted off. She dreamed that she was lost in the woods. She had no idea how she got there or why she was wandering through such an unfriendly place. *I have a feeling that this is where I am supposed to be right now,* she thought.

As Lauryn walked, she came up on a large brick building. She rounded a corner and a large cement black top came into view. Just ahead was a swing set and a jungle gym. "This looks an awful lot like my elementary school," Lauryn said aloud as she let herself in the gate.

She walked up to the building and peered in the windows. What she saw surprised her. "It's my first grade classroom," she said. "There's Ms. Massey at the front of room. And who is that little girl in the hideous flowered dress?" Lauryn peered in the window a little harder.

Her jaw dropped as she realized the girl was her. *I remember those days when Ms. Massey*

*would teach me poems to recite for oratorical contests. I was so amazed when I actually won. As Lauryn stared at the girl's facial expressions and mannerisms, she recalled being frightened to death at speaking in public. I don't know what Ms. Massey saw in me that made her take me under her wing like that. I was so shy, and she helped me discover a hidden talent.*

"If she could only see me now," Lauryn said to herself as she walked away from the building in awe.

**Bzzzzz!** A loud buzzing sound invaded Lauryn's private thoughts and jolted her awake. "Man, I can't believe that was a dream," she said, sitting up in bed and turning off her alarm clock. "I guess it's time to get ready for class and make Ms. Massey proud."

**25.** This was most likely written for

Write your response here:

---

**26.** Which statement from the passage best shows the author's purpose for writing?

Write your response here:

---

**27.** The author most likely wrote this passage

Write your response here:

---

*Degrassi* is a Canadian TV series that became an American phenom. *The Kids of Degrassi* was the original series in the franchise. *Degrassi High*, *Degrassi: Junior High*, and *Degrassi: The Next Generation* have become household names in America thanks to The N network.

Unlike most shows geared towards adolescents and teens, *Degrassi* doesn't ignore or overdramatize sensitive subjects. Peer pressure, cutting, teen pregnancy, child abuse, gang violence, and drug abuse are just a few of the issues *Degrassi: The Next Generation* has covered since its debut in October 2001.

*Degrassi* has won nine Gemini awards (a Canadian award comparable to the Emmy), two Director's Guild of Canada Awards, and two Teen Choice Awards.

**28.** Which of these best explains the author's purpose for writing this passage?

Write your response here:

---

**29.** Who is the audience for this passage?

Write your response here:

---

## **The Williams Sisters**

Sporty siblings are not uncommon. Brothers Eli and Peyton Manning both have promising football careers. Twins Tiki and Ronde Barber (football) and Bob and Mike Bryan (tennis) have also played a role in the history of their sports. But sisters Venus and Serena are two of the most famous siblings in the history of professional sports.

Together, the Williams sisters have dominated the world of professional tennis in the more than

10 years since they went pro. They consistently win the four most important tournaments, or Grand Slams, in the World Tennis Association: the U.S. Open, French Open, Australian Open, and Wimbledon.

As two of the world's best players, Serena and Venus met in six of the eight Grand Slam championships they competed in from the U.S. Open in 2001 to Wimbledon in 2003. Serena won all but one of those matches. In all, she has won eight Grand Slam titles, and Venus has won seven. The pair has also won seven major doubles championships together.

The older sister, Venus, started a comeback in their sibling rivalry by winning the 2008 Wimbledon finals against Serena. During the match, Venus' serves reached speeds of more than 120 miles per hour.

**30.** Which of these is the main purpose of the article above?

Write your response here:

---

There are many reasons for the obesity epidemic in countries around the world. One problem is that young people whose parents have bad eating habits do not eat healthy food at home. Schools once fixed this problem by offering students healthy meals. Today, most high schools have vending machines, which offer anyone with a few dollars unhealthy items like fruit punch, soft drinks, cupcakes, and potato chips. A student who does not use the vending machines can also go through the lunch line and get a cheeseburger and French fries.

Schools must offer students meals, but there is no reason that schools should offer unhealthy meals or provide access to vending machines. Many students eat two meals a day at school. That means that the majority of the food these students eat comes from their schools. If schools offer healthier choices, they can guarantee that the majority of the food that these students are eating on weekdays is healthy. This will go a long way in combating the growing problem of obesity.

**31.** The author's purpose is to persuade. Which statement from the passage **best** shows the author's purpose?

Write your response here:



---

The first time I entered a kitchen was in my father's Italian restaurant, Mario's on the Square. I was probably around three years old. Right away, my father put me to work scrubbing potatoes. I can still remember my chubby little fingers struggling to get the potatoes clean enough for his approval. I worked (without pay) at Mario's on the Square after school. Every birthday, my father would give me cookbooks and biographies of famous chefs like Julia Child and Jacques Pépin. My father was determined that I would follow in his footsteps, and he always got what he wanted.

The first time I saw a motorcycle was in my uncle's garage. He had just returned from a long-distance ride across several states. When I saw the gleaming chrome and inviting leather, something inside of me clicked. I began to read everything I could about motorcycles, and I would visit my uncle at least once a week to watch him tune up his bike. After a while, my father began to notice my newfound passion. We argued constantly—he wanted me to “quit messing around with those stupid bikes” and focus on my future. I already knew that motorcycles were my future, not cooking. Over time, we came to respect each other and our different passions. The day my father went for a ride with me on my motorcycle was one of the best days of my life.

**32.** Which of these best describes the author's purpose for writing?

Write your response here:

---

Music therapy is a field of scientific research that studies the relationship between clinical therapy and biomusicology. Biomusicology is the study of the effects of music on the human physiology. Music therapy is performed by a trained music therapist who employs music and all of its elements (physical, emotional, and spiritual) to improve the health of patients. Music therapists assist patients to increase their level of functioning and quality of life. They sing, play instruments, or discuss the effects of particular pieces of music with their patients. Music therapy is most commonly employed to treat patients who have suffered strokes.

Music therapy has existed in its current state in the United States since 1944 when Michigan State University began offering degrees in music therapy. The American Music Therapy Association, a professional organization for certified music therapists, was founded in 1988, and several institutes for the study of music therapy exist within the country. Music therapy is typically a master's level degree, with the graduate possessing an undergraduate degree in either music theory or some other associated degree. Musical therapists are licensed therapists and incorporate music therapy into other clinical practices like assessment, diagnosis, psychotherapy, rehabilitation, and so forth. Music therapists in the United States obtain this level of certification through the Certification Board of Music Therapists, which serves to regulate and control the actions of its members.

To become a board certified music therapist in the United States, the candidate must complete course work at an accredited program at a college or university. They must complete over a thousand hours of a music therapy internship and pass a board examination. They are required to maintain their education through continuing education courses called Continuing Music Therapy Education courses. Therapists who fail to maintain these courses can have their certifications

suspended.

**33.** The main purpose of the passage is

Write your response here:

---

**34.**



The image and text above were primarily designed for what purpose?

Write your response here:

---

## Lois Pryce

Not too long ago, Lois Pryce was deeply unhappy. She worked in an office in her native England, and as often as she could, she escaped the confines of the city on her beloved motorcycle. It gradually became harder and harder for her to return to her cramped cubicle at the BBC. Lois decided to quit her job and travel to the Americas.

On April 23, 2003, she began a long-distance motorcycle tour that stretched 20,000 miles from Alaska to Argentina. Along the way she encountered many dangers, including bears, engine failures, intense desert heat, and steep mountain roads. Lois' love of adventure continues to this day. In October of 2006, she completed a 10,000 mile motorcycle trip from Tunisia to Cape Town, South Africa. She and her husband, who is also a long-distance motorcycle expeditionist, are currently planning a trip together from London to India.

**35.** The main purpose of this passage is to

Write your response here:

---

## Winters in the Country

by A. Gautam

Sixteen pigeons  
in our front yard  
made our tree house  
a happy place.

I watched the white feathers  
leave a trail of cold wind,  
as they flew by my face—  
mesmerized in the balcony.  
They would flap their wings  
and descend to the big bowl  
for a bath  
precisely at noon—  
when the water warmed up.

They wobbled around  
the edge of the shiny bowl,  
fluttered, slipped, and flew.  
I watched their heads  
move  
back and forth,  
slightly to the side.

Their bellies hugged  
the cement floor.  
They snuck the grains  
I spread out for them—  
faster than the blink of an eye.

Sometimes I hear them  
cooing in my city dreams.  
Countless pigeons in my city  
fly over me.  
I don't have time  
to watch  
their falling feathers.

**36.** Why did the author **most** likely write this passage?

Write your response here:

---

Although there is evidence of passport-like documents dating back to around 450 B.C., there wasn't a standardized set of guidelines for them until the 1980s. These keys to exploring the world come in several different types. Ordinary passports are issued to tourists for travel. Official passports, or service passports, are given to government workers for job-related travel. Diplomatic passports are issued to diplomats and come with privileges like diplomatic immunity. Emergency passports might be distributed if a person loses his or her passport and there is not time to get a replacement.

**37.** Which audience would most likely find this passage interesting?

Write your response here:

---

**38.** What is the author's purpose for writing this passage?

Write your response here:

---

The term "cryptozoology" refers to the search for mythical or hidden animals. Cryptozoologists, both amateurs and professionals, most often search for animals whose existence is denied by mainstream biologists. Additionally, their searches primarily focus on large animals, such as dinosaurs or the creature known as Bigfoot. The Loch Ness monster is one of the most well-known cryptids, and cryptozoologists have been seeking proof of Nessie's existence for years.

Anthonie Cornelis Oudemans' book *The Great Sea Serpent*, written in 1892, is considered the first scholarly work published on the subject of cryptozoology. However, the practice has been around almost as long as humans have walked the Earth. Due to the availability of technology such as GPS and satellite imaging, cryptozoology seems poised to become a popular new science.

**39.** Which of these **best** states the writer's purpose?

Write your response here:

---

Known in its early years as "Grape Vine Prairie," Grapevine, Texas, is named for the wild mustang grapes that grow in the area. Settlement of Grapevine began in the 1840s, making it one of the oldest settled areas of Texas. The population was slow to rise and even fell in the period between the two World Wars because of the poor economy. Grapevine resides on the shores of Grapevine Lake, a man-made lake created by the Army Corps of Engineers in 1952. Largely a farming village for most of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, it was not until the establishment of the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport in 1974 that the city was able to grow significantly. Although Grapevine is a fully urbanized locale, it has several festivals in the fall to celebrate its agricultural roots.

**40.** What is the **best** way to describe the author's purpose in writing this piece?

Write your response here:

---

The scientific study of amphibians and reptiles is known as herpetology. The name comes from the Greek root *herpeton* which means "creeping animal." Those who study this field of biology are known as herpetologists, though they prefer to call themselves "herpers." Modern herpetologists

specialize in a particular field of study, and it is rare to find one who focuses on general herpetology. They find work in a variety of careers, such as field research, nature guides, professors, veterinarians, museum curators, and so on. Few universities offer degrees in herpetology, so it is a highly competitive and close-knit field.

**41.** This article was included in a course catalog guide for a university.

What is the **best** way to describe the author's purpose in writing this piece?

Write your response here:

---

Back in the late 1800s, Martin Stone was the most popular young fiddle player in northeastern Tennessee. In the summertime, Martin liked to take Sunday off and sit up on a rocky bluff near the top of Stone Mountain. There, he would play his fiddle and watch the sun come up over the green rolling hills.

One day, Martin was playing a slow, leisurely tune on his fiddle when a rattlesnake slithered out from under a rock, curled up in the sun, and watched him play. Before Martin knew it, the surrounding rocks were filled with rattlesnakes. Most people would have fainted dead away in terror at that point, but Martin was fascinated.

As the sun went down and dark shadows filled the valley, the snakes slithered back into their nests. Martin packed up his fiddle with a chuckle and made plans to come back next week—but with a surprise.

The next Sunday, Martin climbed to the rocky overhang and began to play his fiddle. Again, the rattlesnakes slithered out and listened to him, hypnotized. Martin then put down his fiddle and picked up a shotgun. He began blasting away at the rattlesnakes, picking them off one by one.

Every Sunday for the next few weeks, Martin returned to the bluff, played his fiddle until the snakes came out, and then began shooting. It became a sport to him, and soon, he became known around the county as the "Fiddlin' Snake Man."

One Sunday toward the end of summer, Martin returned to the bluff like he had done many times before. As the sun rose, he began to play a soft waltz on his fiddle. Once again, the rattlesnakes wiggled out from underneath the rocks and listened, swaying back and forth to the music.

Martin stopped playing, reached for his shotgun—then stopped. Something in the snakes' eyes caught his attention. The snakes glared at Martin with fiery red eyes, burning with intense hatred. Martin was hypnotized in their glare—as hard as he tried, he couldn't reach for his gun.

The snakes surrounded Martin and, one by one, began crawling up inside his pant legs. Martin was frozen with terror as he felt their scaly bodies wriggle around his legs, his chest, and his arms. All at once, the snakes started biting. As their icy venom flowed through his veins, all Martin could do was scream—a horrifying scream that resounded throughout the valley.

To this day, some Johnson County residents refuse to climb to the rocky overhang at the top of Stone Mountain, which they now call "Fiddler's Rock." In the lazy summer months, when the sun rises over the hills, they say you can hear the faint notes of a fiddle, followed by a high-pitched screeching sound.

*adapted by c.safos from the folktale "The Ghost of Fiddler's Rock"*

**42.** Which of the following **best** explains the author's purpose?

Write your response here:

---

In any large city, fire safety is important. When buildings stand close together, as they do in crowded municipalities, one small fire can quickly grow out of control. In 1666, the Great Fire of London devastated the city, consuming over 13,000 homes, 80 churches, and the confines of St. Paul's Cathedral. It is estimated that 70,000 to 80,000 citizens lost their lives in the blaze. Although the fire spread so rapidly because of poor building ordinances and nonexistent fire brigades, such devastation is very possible in the modern world. Fires like the Great Fire of London have been seen following natural disasters, as in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina or the large-scale brush fires that have consumed areas of Southern California. With real dangers, modern, responsible communities should ensure they possess a well-funded and highly trained fire department. An able fire department can make the difference between a small, controlled fire and a large, uncontrolled one.

Next week, Appalosa County will be voting on a referendum to increase funding to the municipal fire departments of Joshuatown, MacKenzie, and Billingsworth. Though the proposition calls for a 3% increase to property taxes, the money will be well spent. I encourage all responsible citizens to vote for Proposition 58.

**43.** Which of the following **best** describes the purpose of this article?

Write your response here:

---

**44.**



The cartoonist created this comic to

Write your response here:

---

## What's in a Name?

by J. Robbins

Have you ever read *War and Peace* or *Crime and Punishment* and been confused by the fact that the characters are called different names at different times? This trend in Russian literature reflects the fact that Russia, along with several other Eastern European countries, uses a patronymic naming system.

When a child is born in Russia, his or her parents only have to come up with one new name for their baby. This is the first, or given, name. Some common Russian first names are Ivan, Mikhail, and Aleksandra. First names can also be shortened into diminutives, which are similar to nicknames. One diminutive form of Aleksandra is Sashenka. Diminutives are used between close friends and family members.

A patronym follows the first name and is derived from the name of a person's father. It is based on this formula:

first name of father + suffix meaning "son of" or "daughter of."

Men's patronymics most often end with the suffixes –ovich, –evich, or –ich. Women's patronymics most often end with the suffixes –ovna, –evna, or –ichna. For example, Ivan, son of Mikhail, would be Ivan Mikhailovich, and Ivan's sister Aleksandra would be Aleksandra Mikhailovna.

Finally, the family's name follows the patronymic. Some Russian family names you may be familiar with are Tolstoy and Tchaikovsky. For many Russian women, last names are changed to add an –ova or an –a. If Aleksandra Mikhailovna married a man with the last name of Gorbachov, she would be Aleksandra Mikhailovna Gorbachova.

Respecting a person's naming system is one way of showing respect for his or her culture. When using the Russian patronymic naming system, there are some important things to remember. The use of all three names together is reserved for formal paperwork and public speeches. Addressing a person by his or her first name and patronymic together is considered polite. For example, this would be an appropriate form for a college student addressing a professor, two people meeting for the first time, or colleagues talking in a work environment. The use of a person's first name by itself is considered informal and occurs most often among friends or family members. Only very close friends and family members address a person by his or her patronymic alone—it would be impolite for a stranger or new acquaintance to do so.

**Name order in the Russian patronymic system:**

**Fyodor**      **Mikhailovich**      **Dostoevsky**



**First/Given Name**

**Patronymic**

**Last/Family Name**

**45.** The main purpose of the passage is to

Write your response here:

---

**46.** What is the primary purpose of the visual included with the passage?

Write your response here:

---

**47.** The purpose of the final paragraph of the passage is to

Write your response here:



"This doesn't look right at all," said Judd in dismay. He pulled his Ford Ranger over to the side of the road and looked at his map. His sister Lizanka sighed deeply.

"You've looked at that thing at least five times, Judd," she told him. "We know we're headed in the right direction. Why don't we just keep going on this road until we find the airport?"

"This is my first flying lesson, Liz," Judd replied. "How will it look to my instructor if I show up late?"

"I can't believe we both forgot our cell phones," muttered Lizanka. "I don't think I've ever been without a phone for this long."

"Relax," said Judd. "We'll drive for ten more minutes, I promise. If we can't find the airport, you and your phone will be reunited shortly." Lizanka shrugged her shoulders in reply as Judd pulled out onto the road. They both scanned the area eagerly, looking for any sign of life.

"There it is!" cried Lizanka. "The sign says to turn left here for Dupont's Air Services."

"I can't believe how small the airport is," Judd remarked as he and his sister exited the truck and walked toward the hangar. "How are you supposed to land a plane on this little patch of grass?"

"Very carefully," replied a voice from the hangar. A tall man in a baseball cap and aviator sunglasses walked toward them with a friendly smile. "I assume you're Judd. I'm Dupont Lively, your new flight instructor." Judd shook the pilot's hand and introduced him to Lizanka.

"Let's get up in the air," Dupont told his new student. "Your sister is welcome to come along with us. The Cessna 172 can fit four people quite easily."

"Sure, I'll come along," agreed Lizanka. "As long as you don't let Judd navigate!" She laughed as Judd glared at her behind the pilot's back.

**48.** What is the **best** way to describe the author's purpose in writing this piece?

Write your response here:

---

**49.**



The main purpose of the visual above is to

Write your response here:

---

## Joseph Meets Dr. Acula

Joseph awoke with a toothache one morning, so he drove into the city to find a dentist. He was in such terrible pain that he stopped at the first dentist's office he saw.

The front door to this office was dark red. It had an attractive black script that read, "Dr. Acula, Dentist Extraordinaire." The name brought a chill down Joseph's spine, but he ignored it and stepped inside.

The door immediately slammed shut behind him, extinguishing any trace of sunlight in the dark and sinister-looking room. Cobwebs covered every corner, and the scent of dried blood polluted the air. Joseph jokingly wondered if this Dr. Acula was the infamous vampire featured in stories and movies. He went up to the reception desk to see if there was any chance he could be seen today, but no one was there. A scroll of parchment lay open on the desk, so Joseph grabbed a pen to jot down his information. He pressed the pen to the parchment and gasped as dark crimson ink flowed out. Joseph was so frightened he didn't even notice that someone was watching him.

"Who's next?" a deep cold voice called from the darkness. Joseph turned his body slowly around, petrified of what he would see. There, in the darkly lit doorway, stood a man in a black cape. His teeth were bright white with . . . two long fangs! Joseph yelped and ran out of the office as fast as he could.

When the door slammed, Dr. Acula sighed. He pulled out his false teeth and turned on the fluorescent lights.

"Looks like another Halloween without any patients," Dr. Acula said to the empty waiting room.

**50.** What was the author's purpose in writing this passage?

Write your response here:

---

Many people in the United States have seen the advertisements warning against movie and music piracy. Hollywood studios are adamant that piracy must stop, and they are working with law enforcement to put an end to illegal copying and downloading of movies and music. Hollywood is waging a war against movie pirates. Now, it is time for Bollywood to join the fight.

Bollywood, the informal name for the movie industry in India, loses millions of dollars a year from piracy. Copyright laws are not strongly enforced, and the movie audiences are not educated. These two things must change in order to end the piracy in Bollywood.

Pirated CDs and DVDs are selling on Indian streets for less than \$1. Movie tickets in India are priced at about \$3. Cost-conscious consumers are quick to buy pirated DVDs over going to the theaters. This means over \$400 million dollars in losses for India's entertainment industry. Bollywood is the world's largest film industry, based on ticket sales. It is worth over \$2.1 billion and is estimated to more than double by 2011.

Dan Glickman is the president of Motion Pictures Association of America (MPAA). He said, "The industry needs strong laws to support copyright. [The industry needs] strong enforcement of those laws." He also said that people who break the laws need stiffer punishments.

The MPAA represents major movie companies in the world. It guesses that copyright theft cost \$1.2 billion in the Asia-Pacific region last year. Worldwide losses are estimated at \$6 billion.

Bollywood films have grown in popularity lately around the world. This has led to a huge bootlegging increase in Britain, the U.S., and Pakistan.

Some Indian studios have gone after the pirates with police help. But these steps have not achieved much. Experts say this is due to weak law enforcement and a lack of awareness. Breaking copyright laws can get a person sent to prison for up to three years. Most pirates get away with paying a large fee.

Glickman urges Bollywood to move toward enforcing copyright laws more strongly. He says it is important for people who love movies to understand that buying pirated movies hurts movie makers. It makes it hard for them to make new films. Movie makers agree that it is time for Hollywood and Bollywood to join together in the fight against DVD and CD piracy.

Copyright 2007 Reuters. Reprinted with permission from Reuters. Reuters content is the intellectual property of Reuters or its third party content providers. Any copying, republication or redistribution of Reuters content is expressly prohibited without the prior written consent of Reuters. Reuters shall not be liable for any errors or delays in content, or for any actions taken in reliance thereon. Reuters and the Reuters Sphere Logo are registered trademarks of the Reuters group of companies around the world. For additional information about Reuters content and services, please visit Reuters website at [www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com).

**51.** What is the **best** way to describe the purpose of this passage?

Write your response here:

---

## How to Avoid Sharks

Considering that hundreds of millions of people participate in water activities stimulating to sharks, the chances of being attacked by a shark are pretty low. Only 71 shark attacks occurred worldwide in the year 2007, and only one resulted in a casualty. If you are still concerned, however, take these simple precautions to stay on top of the food chain.

First of all, stay in groups. Sharks are more likely to attack a solitary individual. Also, avoid areas where sharks are likely to feed, such as fishing spots, drop offs, sand bars, and river mouths, and enjoy the ocean during the day because sharks most often hunt at night, dusk, and dawn.

Like any good predator, sharks know what to look for when hunting. Reflections of light often come from fish scales, and the scent of blood is a telltale sign of life. For these reasons, make sure to take off any shiny jewelry, avoid wearing bright and contrasting colors, such as yellow and orange, and stay out of the water if you are bleeding or menstruating. If you do encounter a shark, get out of the water as calmly and quickly as possible.

**52.** What is the **best** way to describe the purpose of this reading selection?

Write your response here:

---

53.



What is the **best** way to describe how the advertisement tries to persuade the viewer to see the movie?

Write your response here:

---

In 1990, the rebel forces of Mohamed Farrah Aidid entered Mogadishu, Somalia, and began a process of ethnic cleansing against the followers of President Mohamed Siad Barre. In 1992, President George H. W. Bush ordered a contingent of American marines to spearhead the landings of the United Nations peacekeeping forces involved in Operation Restore Hope. The operation was aimed at protecting humanitarian efforts designed to restore order and feed the population caught in the crossfire of these two rival factions. By the time Operation Restore Hope had entered Somalia, all public order and government had collapsed in Mogadishu. The operation was largely unsuccessful, and public outcry called for it to be scaled down then eventually abandoned.

Following Operation Restore Hope, the United States Marine Corps pulled out of Mogadishu and was replaced by a task force of Army rangers and Delta Force special operatives. Italy, Pakistan, and Malaysia also left troops with UN peacekeepers in Mogadishu in a desperate attempt to restore order. The fighting became so intense during one operation on October 4, 1993, that 18 U.S. servicemen lost their lives with another 73 wounded. Two U.S. Black Hawk helicopters were shot down in the engagement. Sergeant First Class Randy Shugart and Master Sergeant Gary Gordon were both posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for their valiant attempts to protect the life of Chief Warrant Officer Michael Durant, the pilot of one of the downed helicopters. This unfortunate event marks the first time the medal had been awarded since the Vietnam Conflict.

In the years following the fighting, different factions and warlords ruled Mogadishu. In 2006, a group of Islamic businessmen were able to seize power and found the Union of Islamic Courts. This organization was barely able to restore tenuous order before their regime collapsed. That same year, troops from Ethiopia invaded Somalia in an effort to install the internationally recognized government, which had been in exile in Kenya for the past 14 years. As with the U.N. efforts to restore peace, the Ethiopian efforts met with the same results, and the bitter fighting continued. In this operation, the BBC reported that Mogadishu had been abandoned by over half of its remaining citizens and that hundreds of thousands had perished since 1990.

The violence in Mogadishu continues with no end in sight. Pirates from the coast of Somalia have begun to attack international shipping in the lanes off the Horn of Africa. These pirates are protected and financed by the warlords that struggle for control of the country. Because of the War on Terror, the United States military remains focused on extremists in the Middle East and Afghanistan despite the fact that many Al Qaeda operatives received training and financing in Somalia. The world seems to have moved on and left the Somalis to fend for themselves. Without international intervention, there is little hope.

Conducting business in Mogadishu presents both extreme benefits and liabilities. Having no central government means that businesses pay no taxes. There are no import or export fees. There are no restrictions on trade whatsoever, except for what the individual warlords charge for "protection." Many businesses that operate in Mogadishu hire private mercenaries and security forces to defend their facilities and employees. Kidnap and hostage insurance companies will not insure business personnel in Somalia. The incredible profits that stand to be made from an environment of absolute free trade are offset by the high risk a business undertakes to conduct commerce in Somalia or the waters offshore.

**54.** Which of the following **best** describes the purpose of this article?

Write your response here:

---

## Dolphin Saves Whales Stuck on New Zealand Beach

by Adrian Bathgate

WELLINGTON (Reuters) - The case of two stranded whales saved by a dolphin off the coast of New Zealand could be the first such case in the world, a conservation worker said on Thursday.

Moko the dolphin, a regular visitor to the coast of Mahia on the east Coast of New Zealand's North Island, became an instant hero after leading two pygmy whales that had repeatedly stranded into deep water on Monday.

"As far as I know it's the only documented instance of this happening," said local Department of Conservation officer Malcolm Smith, adding he had checked with whale stranding specialists who were also unaware of any similar dolphin rescues.

Moko, who had been visiting the beach at Mahia on and off over the summer, arrived at the beach in the nick of time, Smith said.

The disoriented mother and calf had resisted attempts to herd them out to sea, and kept restranding on the beach, to the point where Smith said the pair would likely have to be killed.

Then Moko appeared and came right up to the whales before leading them out to sea.

"Quite clearly the attitude of the whales changed when the dolphin arrived on the scene. They responded virtually straight away," Smith said.

"The dolphin managed in a couple of minutes what we had failed to do in an hour and a half."

Smith said the whales had not been sighted again in the area.

However Moko had returned and was continuing to play with swimmers near the shore, as she has done for about the past six months.

According to Department of Conservation figures, about 700 whales strand on New Zealand beaches every year.

The exact reasons why are not known, but theories include sickness and sloping sandy beaches interfering with whales' sense of direction.

*Copyright 2008 Reuters. Reprinted with permission from Reuters. Reuters content is the intellectual property of Reuters or its third party content providers. Any copying, republication or redistribution of Reuters content is expressly prohibited without the prior written consent of Reuters. Reuters shall not be liable for any errors or delays in content, or for any actions taken in reliance thereon. Reuters and the Reuters Sphere Logo are registered trademarks of the Reuters group of companies around the world. For additional information about Reuters content and services, please visit Reuters website at [www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com).*

**55.** The main purpose of the passage is to

Write your response here:

---

**56.**



Which of the following articles would best fit the primary purpose of this magazine's issue?

Write your response here:

---

When it comes to fitness, new ideas are cropping up all the time. One example can be found in the marathon, a long-distance race of 26 miles. A growing number of marathon runners have decided to ditch their traditional running shoes and hit the pavement in bare feet. Barefoot marathoners claim that running in shoes causes injuries and unnecessary stress on joints and muscles. Recent studies have found that people who run barefoot land first on the balls of their feet, then on the heels. This alignment is thought to reduce the risk of injury in runners. Running shoe

manufacturers, however, state that their products are specifically designed to alleviate the physical strain caused by improper foot placement. Scientists are still studying the long-term effects of running barefooted.

**57.** The author wrote this article in order to

Write your response here:

---

## Answers

1. to convince readers to take up shooting as a hobby
2. people interested in shooting for sport
3. shooting for sport makes kids well-rounded.
4. prevent sickness and promote health.
5. to inform about the PATH project sponsored by HUD
6. to persuade the audience that year-round schooling is beneficial
7. people interested in buying exotic pets
8. "These animals should not be punished for behaving in a way that comes naturally to them."
9. to persuade people that attempting to domesticate wild animals is a bad idea
10. to entertain the reader with a amusing story of adventure
11. "The Dangers of Vending Machine Snacks"
12. "The director William Friedkin said that the Academy Awards is 'the greatest promotion scheme that any industry ever devised for itself,' and he is correct."
13. to educate the reader about the Polynesian people
14. It's an entertaining piece about a young boy's dreams.
15. The Razr 3D makes all the other gaming systems look weak by comparison.
16. to inform readers of a new video game system
17. to provide instructions on how to bake cookies
18. Motown is an important record label.
19. inform the reader about Motown Records.
20. to give examples of Motown's musical legacy



21. someone interested in music and history
22. to inform readers about a man trying to set a world record
23. The public should boycott Shahimi to send the message that dignity is more important than world records.
24. "The Theme of Flying in Toni Morrison's *Song of Solomon*"
25. someone who is pursuing something new.
26. "I was so shy, and she helped me discover a hidden talent."
27. to entertain readers with an inspirational story about a girl named Lauryn.
28. to share information about an award-winning TV series
29. teenage television viewers
30. to inform the readers about the Williams sisters' tennis careers
31. "If schools offer healthier choices, they can guarantee that the majority of the food that these students are eating on weekdays is healthy."
32. to entertain readers with the author's personal history
33. to inform the reader about the school of music therapy.
34. to persuade people to buy the camera
35. inform the reader about a long-distance traveler.
36. to entertain the reader with a melancholy poem
37. tourists
38. to describe the different kinds of passports
39. to inform the reader about the science of cryptozoology
40. to inform the reader about the city of Grapevine, Texas
41. to inform readers with a summary about the field of herpetology
42. to entertain with an eerie tale about snakes
43. to persuade voters to vote in favor of Proposition 58
44. entertain the reader with a story about a cat, a mouse, and a dog.
45. provide information about a practice that is common in Russia.
46. It provides an example of the proper usage of the Russian patronymic system.
47. address issues of etiquette in using Russian names.
48. to entertain the audience with a short story
49. persuade photographers to buy this magazine.
50. to entertain the reader with an amusing story
51. The article informs readers about the fight against piracy.
52. to teach readers how to avoid sharks
53. It creates a sense of urgency by telling the viewer not to "miss out."
54. to inform the reader about conflict in Mogadishu, Somalia
55. inform the audience about a whale rescue.
56. "Healthy After-School Snacks"
57. inform readers about a new trend in fitness.

# Explanations

1. The sentences "She is a prime example of why getting adolescents involved in shooting for sport is a great idea," and "Shooting for sport is a great after-school activity to get kids involved in," let the reader know the author's feelings about sport shooting.
2. This article is about Jamie Beyerle's success as a sport shooter. People who are interested in shooting for sport would enjoy a story about her.
3. The author of this passage says that getting kids involved in shooting for sport instills pride and self-confidence in them. He or she wants the reader to believe that sport shooting helps make kids all around better people.
4. The advertisement says, "An Apple a Day Keeps the Doctor Away," so the reader can infer that the council believes apples prevent sickness and death.
5. The purpose of the passage can best be described as informing the reader about the PATH project. The passage is straightforward and unbiased. The author states various facts about the program sponsored by HUD without attempting to persuade or entertain the reader. Many government agencies are required by law to publicize in detail the purposes of their services.
6. This is a persuasive passage. It is designed to persuade the reader to agree with the author that year-round schooling is a good idea. The author does not devote much, if any, time explaining the concept of year-round school. Rather, the author makes a claim then provides evidence to support the claim. All of these are key elements to a persuasive essay.
7. The author appears to be writing this passage with people who adopt "exotic" pets in mind.
8. This sentence best sums up the author's viewpoint on this issue.
9. The author mentions that he or she believes that people should allow wild animals to stay in their habitats so that no one gets hurt.
10. The best way to describe the author's purpose is to consider the content of the passage. In this case, the information is fictional. Most people read fiction to be entertained. In this case, the story is about a student who becomes lost on a class field trip and then has to deal with being embarrassed. Likely, the reader will be able to identify with the kind of embarrassment the story deals with, though the purpose is not necessarily instructive. Likewise, the passage does not contain informative nor persuasive language. Those kinds of passages normally do not take the form of a fictional story.
11. Ninth grade students would probably most likely be interested in hearing why vending machine snacks are dangerous. The other topics sound like something a parent would want to hear or something that would not hold the students' interest.

12. An ethical appeal is an argument based on the expertise, morality, or integrity of the person making the statement. The author of this passage quotes William Friedkin, a Hollywood director, in an attempt to provide support to the claim that the Academy Awards ceremony is a publicity stunt. The other choices do not appeal to the integrity or character of anyone.
13. Read the passage carefully. To determine the author's purpose, it is important to judge the content of a text. This passage does not contain persuasive language or language meant to entertain. It is very non-biased and straightforward; therefore, it is safe to assume that the passage is meant simply to inform the reader about Polynesia.
14. This passage is a poem. Poems are usually written to entertain. In this case, the poem entertains the reader with an image of a young boy growing up with his dreams to be a Batman. He thinks he has the qualities of a Batman, and he is learning to grow up. Of the choices provided, this poem is more entertaining than it is informative, persuasive, or instructive. Can you tell why the poet gives the boy, who wants to be a Batman, a poet's eyes?
15. The statement, "The Razr 3D makes all the other gaming systems look weak by comparison," is the only answer choice that expresses a personal opinion. The correct answer shows how the tone changes when the author writes about his or her personal opinion.
16. The author's purpose is to inform readers of the release of the Razr 3D game console. The author does not express a personal opinion about the game console.
17. The author wrote this recipe to instruct readers on how to make white chocolate pecan cookies.
18. The author refers to Motown as "history making" and its acts as "legendary." He or she wants the reader to believe that Motown is an important record label.
19. This passage gives the readers insight into Motown's beginnings to its present day status.
20. The last paragraph mentions artists who were important to the formation and success of Motown.
21. This passage gives Motown Records' history. A person who is interested in music and history would enjoy it.
22. The passage is about a man looking to set a world record for kissing a snake. The author doesn't make any plea to the audience to change this event or to influence the event. The author is simply informing the audience, who may not be aware about this man and his event.
23. In order to persuade someone into action, you must provide a rallying cry or propose a solution to the problem. In this case, the solution is starting a boycott in order for Shahimi to realize the snakes he performs with are being exploited.

24. Although Keri can choose any topic of her choice, a paper discussing a literary theme in a novel by a respected author would probably be most impressive to English teachers.
25. This story is about a girl who is afraid that she will not be successful in college. Lauryn dreams about a past event and a teacher that inspired her. This story would be helpful to someone who is doing something new and needs a little inspiration.
26. Lauryn's teacher, Ms. Massey, helped her overcome her fear of public speaking. Now she's a theatre major at college. Remembering Ms. Massey's inspiration encourages Lauryn.
27. This is an inspirational story about Lauryn's dream. It is meant to entertain readers.
28. This passage talks about the origin of the *Degrassi* series and some of the subject matter it has covered.
29. This passage about the *Degrassi* TV series would interest teen viewers because they are the target audience.
30. The article is not meant to entertain, instruct, or persuade. It gives information and lists facts about sisters and world-renowned tennis players, Venus and Serena Williams.
31. This is a persuasive passage. The author attempts to persuade the reader that schools should offer healthy eating choices to students. He or she states that this will have a positive benefit by "guarantee[ing] that the majority of the food that these students are eating on weekdays is healthy." This statement best shows the author's persuasive purpose in writing this passage.
32. This passage contains the first-person account of the author's early life. The author describes his/her family relationships and his/her passion for motorcycles. The passage is mainly intended to entertain readers with the author's personal history.
33. Read the passage carefully. To determine the author's purpose, it is important to judge the content of a text. This passage does not contain persuasive language or language meant to entertain. It is very non-biased and straightforward; therefore, it is safe to assume that the passage is meant simply to inform the reader about the school of music therapy.
34. The image and text come together to form an advertisement. While the ad does provide information about the camera, its main purpose is to get people to buy it. The camera is described as a high pixel camera and is said to never miss a shot. These specific pieces of information were carefully chosen to convince people to buy the camera.
35. This passage provides information about Lois Pryce, a woman who has made two major journeys by motorcycle. The author does not try to convince the reader to travel or persuade the reader to buy a motorcycle. The facts and dates mentioned in the text show that the passage is not a fictional story. The purpose of the passage is to inform the reader about a long-distance traveler named Lois Pryce.

36. Poems are usually written to entertain. In this case, the poem entertains with the narrator's melancholy, or nostalgic, image of his or her winters in the country. Of the choices provided, this poem is more entertaining than it is informative, persuasive, or instructive. Can you tell why the speaker of the poem doesn't watch the falling feathers anymore?
37. Tourists would be interested in information about these "keys to exploring the world."
38. This passage explains the different kinds of passports that are available.
39. The purpose of the article is to inform. When trying to determine the purpose of an article, consider the content carefully. In this case, the content is informational. The author is informing the reader about the science of cryptozoology.
40. The best way to determine author's purpose is to examine the content of a text. The content of this passage is neutral and informative. It does not try to persuade or entertain. Therefore, one can assume that the author's purpose in writing this passage is to inform readers about the city of Grapevine, Texas.
41. The best way to describe the author's purpose is to consider the content of the passage. In this case, the information is meant to give the reader a brief explanation and summary of herpetology, thus allowing the reader to make an informed decision on course enrollment.
42. This narrative is a fictional ghost story, and a primary purpose of fiction is to entertain. Persuasive writing usually comes in the form of an essay or editorial piece in which the author argues for or against a particular point of view. In this case, the author makes no judgments of any kind. Likewise, the story does not provide the reader with information about a particular subject. Informative writing is normally presented in an objective way, like a newspaper article or textbook entry.
43. This is an editorial article. Editorial articles express the opinions of journalists or fellow readers. The content of the article uses persuasive language. The author relates the information in a subjective manner so that his or her personal opinion can persuade the reader.
44. In this case, the cartoon shows a cat, a mouse, and a dog making friends and playing nice. The cartoonist created a silly comic to entertain the reader with a story about a cat, a dog, and a mouse.
45. This passage describes several aspects of the patronymic naming system used in Russia and other countries. The author does not discuss symbolism or themes in Russian literature, recommend changes to current naming practices, or persuade readers to adopt the patronymic system. The passage is mainly intended to provide information about a practice that is common in Russia.
46. The second, third, fourth, and fifth paragraphs of this passage discuss the proper name order in the Russian patronymic naming system. The visual at the end of the passage demonstrates the proper name order of well-known Russian author Fyodor Mikhailovich Dostoevsky. This visual aid is intended to help the reader understand the material

discussed in the passage.

47. In the final paragraph of this passage, the author states that respecting the Russian naming system is a way of respecting Russian culture. Then, the author discusses "some important things to remember" about using the Russian patronymic naming system. The main purpose of this paragraph is to address issues of etiquette in using Russian names.
48. The best way to describe the author's purpose is to consider the content of the passage. The information in this passage is fictional. Most people read fiction to be entertained. This passage is the fictional account of a character named Judd who gets lost on the way to his first flying lesson.
49. The visual is an example of an advertisement. Advertisements almost exclusively have the purpose of persuading. Ads may give the reader more information about the product, but they only provide that information with the hopes that the reader will buy or do something.
50. This narrative is a humorous fictional story that is meant to entertain. Fictional stories are normally not intended to persuade, describe, or inform. Those types of writings usually take the form of an essay, newspaper article, or other informational piece.
51. The best way to describe the purpose is to consider the content of the passage. In this case, the author is trying to make a point of showing the problems that occur in movie industries around the world because of piracy. The author is of the opinion that Bollywood, India's film industry, needs to work together with Hollywood and other industries to put an end to piracy.
52. Recipes, how-to guides, or directions all have the same purpose: to teach or instruct. In this case, the passage is instructing the reader on how to avoid sharks.
53. One part of the ad contains the phrase **"DON'T MISS OUT ON THE FUN!"** Another part of the ad has the date when it will be in theaters, which means they want you to see the movie on the day it opens. They play on the idea that you will miss out if you don't see it on opening day.
54. This passage is a news article about ongoing conflict in Mogadishu, Somalia. News articles are a primary source of information for many people. Other sources meant to inform include newspapers, magazines, or other news outlets. The author does not try to convince the reader of anything, so the passage is not persuasive. Rather, the author relates the information in an objective manner so that only the facts are presented. This type of writing is intended to inform the reader.
55. This is a news article, and news articles are meant to inform people about current events. Numerous people get information about things they do not know from newspapers, magazines, or other news outlets. In this case, the article informs the reader about a rescue involving two whales and a dolphin. Take note that the author does not try to convince the reader of anything, so the passage is not persuasive. Rather, the author relates the information in an objective manner so that only the facts are presented. This type of writing is intended to inform the reader.

56. The words "Keep Them Full and Healthy" are written just below the title of the magazine, and the main picture of the cover shows different types of healthy food. The reader can tell that this issue of *Healthy Kids Magazine* is devoted to the health of children. The featured articles will most likely deal with nutrition and healthy foods. "Healthy After-School Snacks" sounds like an article that would help promote smart eating for students after school.
57. This article focuses on the new trend of running barefoot in marathons. The author does not use persuasive language or personal anecdotes in the article. Instead, he or she uses factual language to inform readers about this new trend in fitness.